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The Kentucky Mountains. Transportation and Commerce, 1750 to 1911. A Study in the Economic History of a Coal Field. By Mary Verhoeff. Vol. I, xiii and 208 pp. Maps, ills. John P. Morton & Co., Louisville, Ky., 1911. \$5. 12½ x 10.

In a stately volume we have here a demographic study of particular interest. Long neglected, the society of the Appalachians is now coming into study and a rich harvest is being gathered by the historian and the sociologist. For her central theme Miss Verhoeff has selected the highway system of the mountains, their development under the stimulus of social needs and their strict accord with geographical conditions of the barrier mass. From this introduction she passes to a detailed study of each of the main highways with its feeders and cross links and discusses the effect which each has had upon tributary territory. At every point she discusses the relation and interrelation of the several elements, the Indian trail following the path of least resistance or the trail which promised the richest reward to an animal-slaying nomad, the riverine paths which opened the way for pack-animal and later for wheeled transport, the settlement conditioned by the nature of the soil to which each such path gave access. In the end she discusses the decadence of the old highways when newer methods of transportation established conditions with which these ancient paths could not compete. It is a most complete monograph, it cannot fail of interest to those who enjoy the view of forgotten nooks of our country.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

SOUTH AMERICA

In den Wildnissen Brasiliens. Bericht und Ergebnisse der Leipziger Araguana-Expedition 1908. Von Dr. Fritz Krause. viii and 512 pp. Maps, ills., index. R. Voigtländer, Leipzig, 1911. Mk. 12. 9½ x 7.

The region traversed by this small but excellently conducted expedition lies in close proximity to the meridian of 50° W. through nearly 25° of latitude, between Pará and Santos. It supplies us with fresh information from the states of Pará, Matto Grosso, Goyaz, São Paulo and Minas Geraes. The opening section of the volume, the diary of exploration, is very personal, a careful record of Dr. Krause far from Leipzig set in the heart of the Araguaya country. After one recovers from the feeling of objection to the personal pronoun (and *ich* does not produce quite the effect of I), there is much to be said for this manner of record. In mathematics one would think of it as tending to establish the personal equation, a factor that must enter quite as largely into ethnographical research. We are thus able to weigh the results presented impersonally in the larger half of the work where the author records very carefully worked out notes upon the Indian population of the region. It is a very inspiring record. The observation has been keen and successive observations are very carefully associated. There results an appearance of precision and breadth which in itself establishes the value of these studies. It is agreeable to find that in the elaboration of the economics of the savage life which passed under his examination the author has by no means neglected the topic of amusement. Experience has shown that the savage is not the solemn person he may seem when in the presence of the intruder. Those of us whose lot has for years been cast with primitive peoples have had to learn that life at the bottom of the scale is quite as much a game as it is a struggle. The fuller the record we possess of the sports of the wild the better we shall be equipped to approach the topic of the psychology of immature races, a topic which now clamors for examination. In the not inconsiderable nook of earth in which Dr. Krause has been busy his record of the amusements and the toys of the Indians will long be cited as basic information.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

AFRICA

Africa of To-Day. By Joseph King Goodrich. xvii and 315 pp. Map, ills., index. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1912. 7½ x 5.

Like a somewhat larger work "Actual Africa," by Frank Vincent, this book